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Authentic Statement
OF ALL THE
F A C T S
RELATIVE TO
NOOTKA SOUND.

John Cadman Esq.

A
CONTINUATION
OF AN
AUTHENTIC STATEMENT
OF ALL THE
FACTS
RELATIVE TO
NOOTKA SOUND,
ITS
DISCOVERY, HISTORY, SETTLE-
MENT, COMMERCE, and the Public
Advantages to be derived from it.

WITH
OBSERVATIONS ON A LIBEL,
WHICH HAS BEEN TRACED TO A
FOREIGN AMBASSADOR!

IN A SECOND LETTER,
By *A R G O N A U T.*

L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR, and sold by
W. S. FORES, No. 3, Piccadilly.

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E R R A T A.

- 1 Page 13, line 11, for advantageous, read advantages
- 2 —, — 20, for Magellan, read Le Maire
- 3 16, — 4, for Cypru, read Cyprus
- 4 24, — 5, for not, read now
- 5 , 34, — 19, dele the.

Authentic Statement, &c. &c.
continued.

TO THE KING.

SIRE,

PREVIOUS to the continuation of the Nootka Sound establishment, commerce, spoliation, &c. it is indispensibly necessary to call the attention of your Majesty and the public, to a dark transaction unfolded in the following letter. In the detection, conviction and punishment of which, the proprietors and the public are equally interested, by reasons both personal and political. But, whatever suspicions we entertain, we pretend not to develop the secret motives which actuate other men. We solicit not

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the public credit to assertion, or declamation ;
our appeal is to facts and proofs : neither
do we presume to determine how far the
recent observation, and emphatical predic-
tion of a sublime and elegant orator, will
apply to the present case.

“ I fear not the liberty nor licentiousness
“ of the press, I dread most its venality.”

*Libel on the Proprietors of the Nootka Sound
Commerce.*

The following paragraph was inserted in
yesterday's Gazetteer, (Thursday, 27th
May) and was instantly, on discovery, an-
swered by the subsequent note to the editor.

“ It is said, that one of the persons chiefly
“ interested in the affair of Nootka Sound,
“ and on whose respectable authority Mini-
“ sters have so rashly and publicly committed
“ the English nation, did, in the course of the
“ last war, make application to the court of
“ France, for letters of marque to cruise
“ against the British trade, which, from his
“ intimate

“ intimate knowledge, he stated, that he could
 “ materially affect : it is certainly worth the
 “ attention of Parliament to enquire, whether
 “ Ministers have listened to the testimony of any
 “ such character—it is in our power to be
 “ more explicit.”

To the Editor of the Gazetteer.

ARGONAUT presents his compliments to the editor of the Gazetteer, was struck with astonishment on reading in the Gazetteer of this morning, a false, scandalous, malicious libel, against Argonaut's friend, now absent, *one of the persons chiefly interested in the affair of Nootka Sound.*

I can most confidently assure you and the public, that the whole of the above paragraph is a deliberate falsehood, a rank atrocious calumny ; and so soon as you give up the name of the cowardly assassin, to which you can have no reasonable nor honourable objections, I have authority to say, he will be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the laws, and dragged, with infamy, to public justice and punishment.

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In the mean time, I expect, from your candour and liberality, a contradiction of that slanderous paragraph in to-morrow's Gazetteer, in language as indignant and reproachful as is due to such a calumniator and impostor. In haste B.

P. S. The bearer is my friend (Mr. Etches's brother) who demands the author's name.

After some altercation between the bearer and the editor, and being sneeringly told, that the editors of newspapers were totally indifferent as to the consequence of printing libels; at length, the editor declared his author to be a man of high rank and fashion, *a foreign Ambassador*; that he, the editor, was then going to the Opera-house, where he expected to see him, that he would there relate the circumstance to him, and if the Ambassador had no objection, he would then mention his name. The next day (Friday, May 28) the following written answer was received at the editor's house, No. 16, Shire-lane.

SIR,

S I R,

There is no paragraph in the *Gazetteer* of yesterday, against the proprietors of the Nootka Sound Commerce. The conductors have no authority to deliver up the name of any correspondent.

J. ETCHES, Esq.

Friday, 28th May.

It would be offering an insult to the public understanding, were we to draw many inferences from this extraordinary and avowed correspondence between *a foreign Ambassador* and the editor of an English newspaper; more especially in the present momentous crisis. We however, content ourselves, at present, with a naked statement of facts, submitting them to the public comments; the calumniators shall be made responsible to the laws. The paragraph, even if founded on truth, would be but a lame defence and justification of the predatory seizure of British property and British ships. Besides, it requires very little depth of penetration to discern that
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S I R,

this paragraph is equally libellous on the present measures of the British Government and Parliament.

The Nootka Sound proprietors have already been plundered of the whole fruits of many years industry, and discoveries, and of their property to an immense amount: at the same time, their officers and men have been dragged, with ignominious exultation and studied insult, into confinement and slavery. Are these the *grateful* returns for the noble efforts of humanity and heroism exercised by Sir Roger Curtis and British seamen, to drowning Spaniards at the siege of Gibraltar? At the hazard of life, and before the rage of battle had subsided, they were snatched from the jaws of death, by an enemy as valiant as merciful. These brilliant proofs of generosity in war, are rewarded by fetters and handcuffs, to unoffending and industrious British merchants.

Must the injuries and sufferings of the Nootka Sound proprietors, be still further aggravated by stabs aimed at their private

vate character and reputation? This is persecution with a vengeance. It unites, in one climax of villainy, the remorseless rancour of an inquisitor, with the rapacity and violence of an Arab, or an Algerine.— Happily for mankind, there is a folly attendant on wickedness, which leads to its own detection and defeat. Is the British nation so mean and pusillanimous as to suffer such a daring insult, and wholesale robbery to escape unpunished? or are they so dull of intellect as to be misled and duped by such personal slander and anonymous abuse? Is this pitiful plea substituted as a conductor to carry off the national resentment? To us it would be no matter of surprise, were the proprietors next charged with the crime of being heretics, whom, according to the inquisitorial code, it would be meritorious to despoil, and, to exterminate.

Let us whisper a parting word to the editor of the *Gazeteer*, that gentleman, by this transaction, has for ever forfeited our good opinion, and friendship. He is indebted

indebted to our lenity and humanity for the stifling of those observations which spontaneously present themselves on the perusal of his written excuse and inconsistency.

*Continuation of the Nootka Sound Statement,
 &c. &c.*

On the arrival of the Spaniards, the proprietors had every prospect of being rewarded with ample fortunes; the arrangements made, and the treaties formed with the Indian Chiefs must have destroyed all foreign competition, and have given them an exclusive possession of the trade for many years.

It was the intention also of the proprietors, previous to sailing the present season, to have obtained authoritative permission of the honourable the East India Company, of the right of disposal of their own furs at Canton; by being deprived of which, contrary to the intention of the
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honourable Company, they have been sufferers to a very great amount.

In making restitution to the proprietors, they are indisputably, as was before observed, entitled to probable, and prospective, as well as actual losses. In future, commercial adventurers will reap the benefit of what they have been at so great an expence to discover, and establish.—Every succeeding year would have reduced their expence, and increased their trade: nor could the Asiatic and other markets ever be surcharged with the staple articles of their commerce. To replace the proprietors in the same situation must require many years, and perhaps never can be accomplished.

The Indians, hitherto, had been impressed with an idea that no human force could oppose, much less conquer Britain; but having lately been witnesses to its humiliation, they will naturally become estranged, and lose that reverence and adoration which they entertained for the power, superiority

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and protection of its subjects. In their future mutual intercourse and traffic, there will be on each side, more diffidence and distrust, and the proprietors precautions for their own security and defence, must increase their stationary force and expenditure.

Should even the Nootka settlements and ships be immediately restored to the proprietors, the Spaniards, Russians, and North Americans will have the whole benefit and commercial emoluments of the last, the present, and the ensuing year; perhaps they will lay claim to new discoveries; and should they persevere in the Princess Royal's tract, they may probably open a communication with the great internal lakes of that continent. In this case, were they even to be prohibited from the western coast, the North Americans, I mean our late revolted colonies, might, through the intervention of the Indians of the back settlements, become competitors in the fur trade, by opening an intercourse with the Indian settlements on the

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the east side of that continent, and thereby draw the current of the fur commerce to the Atlantic shores. The Hudson's Bay Company is an example of this ; they have a regular communication with the northern Indian tribes, to the distance of upwards of 1500 miles.

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Again, should the Russians become sufficiently powerful, or lay in wait for a favourable opportunity, (witness the armed neutrality) they might probably, not be very scrupulous about dispossessing both English and Spaniards. So sensible was the Empress of Russia of the importance of this trade, that five sail of large frigates, armed *en flute*, were two years ago equipped at St. Petersburg, and furnished with every kind of stores, for the formation of settlements on the north-west coast, and on the opposite coasts of Asia, for establishing a complete Marine Yard for Ship building, and for prosecuting a regular system of commerce, on the most extensive scale, throughout the great Pacific. The equipment was made under the direction of

of Captain Trevannon, a lieutenant in the British Navy, and a favourite officer of the late Captain Cook, whom he accompanied in his last voyage. This naval expedition, when ready to depart, was frustrated by the rupture with Sweden. The whole consisting of a chosen set of officers and seamen, were at the express and urgent demand of Admiral Greig, detained for the manning of his fleet.

Captain Trevannon was to have acted in concert with a land expedition, of similar importance and purport, under the command of Captain Billens, another of Captain Cook's scholars, who was accompanied by 1500 attendants, and assistants, consisting of the most select mechanics, artificers, &c. assembled from all parts of Europe, and who are now, and have been during the last four years, occupied in surveying the eastern coast, and large rivers of Asia. I can add, from authority, that every part of Captain Trevannon's equipment is now laid up in the store houses at St. Petersburg, until the

the first favourable opportunity for resuming the voyage, on the return of peace.

In the present critical moment, any rash or equivocal concessions on the part of Britain, respecting the right to their own discoveries, priority of occupancy, and commerce in those parts, must be fatal to the future traffic, and mercantile pursuits throughout. They would also be an indiscreet surrender of the stupendous advantages ~~which might be expected from~~ the discovery of a north-west passage. The north-west continent of America, from the latitude 45 north, was not discovered before the late voyage of Captain Cook, nor the interior parts before the Nootka Sound expeditions: neither have the Spaniards the most distant pretensions to the discovery of the South Cape, the Straits of Magellan, ^{or of Staten Island} or of Staten Island; their absurd claims have been recently discussed, and refuted in a pamphlet by an able writer, Dalrymple.

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The enlightened commercial public are not to be informed, that the discoveries and trade within the vicinity of the Pacific, present one of the principle, and of the few remaining sources, and unexplored tracts of remote commerce. They open prospects to rich harvests and unexplored mines of American and Asiatic wealth, and point out no inconsiderable resources, in addition to the European gleanings.

But, perhaps, the majority of the British Parliament, and nation, are not yet apprised of the immense political importance of the stations at Nootka, and at Staten Island. It will stagger their belief to be told, that they are, in that view, not inferior to Gibraltar, in case of hostilities with Spain ; an event which either now, or in no long space of time seems inevitable. If Spain evades it at present, it will be more from policy and fear than inclination ; and the first symptoms of Britain's political derangement or distress will, as in the case of the American rebellion, be a signal for the protrusion of their sting, and the repetition of their enmity.

enmity. These stations have likewise an advantage of which Gibraltar cannot boast; they can be maintained, not only without expence, but will, at the same time, add a prodigious revenue to the national streams.

It would be easy for us to discriminate, in detail, those numerous modes of annoyance, whenever the brazen throat of war shall summon Britain to arms. The geographical reader will have no difficulty to anticipate, and to subscribe to the substance of those general hints.

The mention of Gibraltar withdraws us to a momentary digression from the immediate subject. As an impregnable fortress, as the gates of the Mediterranean Straits, and as occasioning a division of the Spanish force, it is unquestionably a most valuable possession. This cannot be said of Minorca, on which so much money was expended, and which never was, nor ever could be of any real consequence to the interest of Britain. On the other hand, a thousand reasons, political and commercial, should

should long since have fixed the attention of Britain on one of the islands about the mouth of the *Ægean* or *Archipelago*, (*Candia* or *Cyprus*, &c.) This would be an inestimable acquisition to the British commerce, and probably, in the present distressed situation of the Turkish empire, might be obtained in return for our friendly offices. From this center, a commerce, whose benefits are yet unfathomable, might be extended to *Egypt*, *Syria*, *Turkey*, *Persia*, &c. Articles from those extensive and luxurious regions, equally essential to our manufactures, to our real wants, and to our luxuries, might be obtained in barter for the staple productions of our own island.

In a word, we are decidedly of opinion with a profound political writer (*Campbell's Political Survey of Great Britain*) that our island might be trebled in its population ; and rendered equal in this respect to an Asiatic island of the same extent, I mean *Japan*. To this I will add, that I believe our commerce might be increased and multiplied in a compound ratio, and circulated through

through a variety of new channels, amongst those delightful regions which environ the eastern shores of the Mediterranean. Did time permit, I could establish both these propositions to a mathematical demonstration.

We are now to resume the primary subject and theme of the present narrative: the liberality, disinterestedness, and patriotism which gave birth to the original enterprise and equipment, will be manifest by a perusal of the following authentic copy of the proprietors' instructions to the different commanders and captains of their ships in the Noetka commerce. In these instructions there will not be found a single trace of clandestine or illegal views, but glaring evidence of fair and honourable commerce.

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LONDON,

LONDON, *Sept.* 3, 1785.

*Instructions to Capt. NATHANIEL
PORTLOCK, Commander of the
Ship KING GEORGE.*

S I R,

YOU having been appointed to the command of the said ship, pursuant to an agreement already made with you, for the purpose of conducting the present expedition, on commercial principles, to the north-west coast of America, from thence to the Japanese and other islands on, and near the coast of Asia, and to Canton, in China.

You are hereby required to proceed with the said ship, taking under your command the snow, *Queen Charlotte*, Capt. George Dixon commander, who hath directions to follow your instructions; you are to proceed without loss of time, directly to Cape Horn, unless you find it absolutely necessary,

fary, for the refreshment of your ship's company, or from any other material accident; in such case you may put into Madeira, or any other place you may deem necessary; particularly observing to make such stay as short as possible.

On the arrival of the said ship off the Cape, or off Staten land, you are to put into such port, harbour, or sound as you shall deem the most prudent, for wooding and watering the ships, and refreshing your companies; from thence you are to proceed, (*particularly observing to give as good an offing as you possibly can to the Spanish settlements*) directly to the coast of New Albion, falling in with the land in latitude $45^{\circ} 00'$ north.

On your arrival, you are to make the first convenient port you possibly can, and endeavour, to the utmost of your abilities, to cultivate a friendship with the natives, for the purpose of opening a traffic with them for the produce of their country: and, as you have a large supply of every article of

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goods,

goods, both for bartering and for presents, you are hereby required to traffic with them with that liberality, integrity, and generosity as shall imprint on their minds *the true character of a British merchant*. You are to proceed along the coast, to the northward, entering all the bays, harbours, sounds, creeks, and rivers that you shall deem of benefit, and consistent with the true intent of a commercial voyage. In respect to the traffic to be met with ;' you are well acquainted that furs of all kinds are the chief object at the present; but you are requested to make every possible inquiry, particularly, at King George's Sound for copper, for whatever other articles of commerce there are to be met with, and for the future benefit of securing the trade of the continent and islands adjacent, you are to establish such factories as you shall see necessary, and consistent with the safety of such settlers, and your ship's company. King George's Sound, we should presume, not only from being central, but in every respect consistent with the intent of forming such establishment:

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but in this respect we must leave you entire-
 ly discretionary.

Mr. William Wilby we have deemed perfectly qualified for such an undertaking, and he accompanies you entirely with that intent; therefore wherever you shall deem it necessary to establish a factory, you are to purchase of the natives such a track of land as you shall think best suited for the purpose of trading, and for security; paying them in the most liberal and friendly manner for the same. You are to take every possible step by presents, or by any other mode, or maxim, you shall deem prudent for the cultivating a cordial and lasting friendship with them. You are then to appoint as many men as you shall deem necessary, and who shall turn out as volunteers, to be companions to Mr. Wilby. You are to give them every possible assistance, to erect a log-house, or such other building as shall appear necessary for their residence, and for the carrying on a traffic with the natives. You are to give them every assistance to make such place tenable against the natives, and provide

provide them with such arms, ammunition, &c. as you shall deem necessary for defence, protection, &c. You are to leave them such quantities of provisions and other articles for convenience, and for the purpose of carrying on a trade with the natives, as you shall deem necessary, till you shall think there is a probability of their being supplied again. It will be very necessary that all the goods you leave with them should be secured from the discerning eye of the natives, as they may prove a temptation to their committing depredations during your absence. If you can make them a convenient store underground to deposit their goods in, I should deem them the more secure. You are likewise to provide them with a boat and such arms and instruments as may be necessary, in case they should not be able to keep peaceable possession. Should it appear probable that a whale fishery can ever be of any material advantage to the Company, you must leave them every thing necessary for the carrying such plan into execution. You are likewise to make an agreement with all the people you leave behind, in such a liberal

ral manner as shall appear consistent with the undertaking. I would recommend liberal wages to the men, and to Mr. Wilby, so much per skin, according to the animal, but whale oil, fins, and copper by the ton, this must be left to your discretion; always having our motto in your mind, "*Commercio liberali crescimus.*"

After having made such establishments, and run along the coast to the northward, as far as shall be prudent, and consistent with the undertaking, you are to make the best of your way to the Kurile, Japanese islands, and likewise the coast of Asia, and to take such steps for the disposal of your cargoes by laying off and on the respective coasts, as you shall judge expedient: the northermost parts of the island of Nippon, the islands adjacent, the coast of Corea, Nankin, and China I presume are the most advantageous for the disposal of furs. If a factory could possibly be settled on the island of Matmi, or any other convenient island contiguous to the north part of the island of Nippon, if this could be done with safety, or even
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if a friendly intercourse could be opened with the natives, it would be accomplishing a great object ; but this must be entirely discretionary.

You will ~~not~~^{now} be within the limits of the East-India Company, and as each ship hath an attested copy of our agreement with them on board, I must request you will give such agreement a serious perusal, that you may in no respect transgress in any part, where you may be driven by distress, or put into for the purpose of trading. Having done all in your power at the islands, and on the coast of Corea, Nankin, and China, you are to proceed to Canton, and are there to act in every respect pursuant to the articles of agreement made with the honourable East-India Company.

You are positively ordered, while you remain at the Cape, or at any other place you touch at, to refresh your ships' companies, before entering the Pacific Ocean, to put both vessels into the best possible state of defence you are enabled to do.—

That

that you keep proper discipline among your people, and wherever you touch, to act with the utmost prudence and caution, so as not to admit of a possibility of surprise from the natives. You are further ordered, and that in the most positive manner, not to let any temptation, be it ever so great, or of whatever nature, to put you off your guard: should any disaster or accident happen to your ships between the two continents of America and Asia, you have hereby full discretion to give such directions for the further proceedings of either or both vessels, as you shall deem consistent with the agreements made with the two companies,) viz. the South Sea, and India Companies.)

On your arrival at Canton, should both the ships be ordered to Europe on the East-India Company's account, and you have established any factories in the course of your voyage, you are in that case, to purchase a vessel to return to the said factories; to be commanded by such of your officers, as you shall deem best qualified

fied, with such provisions, trade, orders, &c. &c. as you shall deem necessary.— Should this ship make Sulphur Island, in her rout to the coast, I could wish them to make a landing, if to be done with safety and convenience, but not to lose any time; for this step you know my reasons: When you first peruse these dispatches, put down your own sentiments on this subject, in writing, in case of accident to yourself.

You are also requested to take a draft or sketch of any place you may discover, in such manner as is consistent with the nature of your voyage; and if you find such parts have not been before visited by other nations, you are to take possession, with the consent of the natives, which you will attempt to gain, by making them presents (*the light-horseman's caps will be a good emblem of your having been among them*) in the NAME of the KING of GREAT-BRITAIN; and set up such marks or inscriptions, as will give testimony of such parts having been taken possession of by His Majesty's subjects; and in naming such parts, you must particularly recollect our kind patrons.

Should

Should any accident happen to your ship in the course of the voyage, so as to disable her from further proceeding thereon, you are hereby authorised to take the command of the Queen Charlotte, and act in every respect, as if you was on Board the King George. And as it is impossible to foresee the accidents that may arise in such a voyage, you have full power to act according to your discretion, for the benefit of the concerned, fully relying on your abilities, in following these instructions, as far as shall appear consistent, and for the benefit of the undertaking.—Whatever accident may happen, or alterations you shall be necessitated to make, in prosecuting the voyage, you are required to make such ample protest, of such circumstances, as you shall deem satisfactory, to the people who have underwrote the said ships; you have a copy of the policy delivered with these dispatches.

You are particularly required to bring home with you specimens of, or samples of every kind of produce you may meet

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with in the course of trafficking, either on the continent of America, or Asia, or Islands adjacent, and be careful to bring them in as good a state of preservation as you possibly can: from the well known friendship existing between yourself, and Captain Dixon, I hope I have no occasion to express how requisite and necessary it is for the benefit of the undertaking, that the utmost cordiality exist between you.—Fully relying on the utmost of your endeavours, and amply satisfied how much you have this undertaking at heart, I can only pledge my future friendship for you, and to your family, during your absence, and wishing you every blessing that Providence can bestow; I remain most sincerely,

your most affectionate,

and obedient servant,

(Signed) RICHARD CADMAN ETCHES.

P. S. I have omitted to mention that you are particularly required, not to let slip any possible opportunity of sending intelli-

intelligence of your proceedings from the time you leave the British Channel, until you return to England: you are to address such dispatches to Richard Cadman Etches, London, and inclose them under cover, to George Rose, Esq. at the Treasury, London.

R. C. E.

The *letter*, at the beginning of this pamphlet, entitled "a Libel on the Proprietors of the Nootka Sound Commerce," was sent to the editors of two morning newspapers as an advertisement, it was admitted for publication by the conductors, and paid for, and one of them had actually committed it to the press; but afterwards, they thought proper to decline its publication, one of them apologizing with an evasive declaration, that he never interfered with the conduct of other newspapers; the other, that he was afraid of making enemies. The principles which dictated such a rejection and excuse, involuntarily provoke a few censures, not from any motives of

of private pique or resentment, but in defence of public rights.

What private reasons determined those editors from the insertion of the preceding letter and advertisement, are unknown to us. We answer for ourselves, that the confederacy of newspaper editors shall not deter us from rescuing private character from the daggers of anonymous libellers, nor from contributing our mite to the national dignity and prosperity; holding, in equal contempt, the malevolence of foreign or domestic foes.

We deprecate the period when such a system of tacit agreement, combination, and connivance shall be established amongst newspaper editors. Should they be armed with the discretionary privilege of inserting anonymous calumny, and then, with peremptory dictation, reject a contradiction by the parties injured, with the additional sanction of their names and residence; and likewise, by themselves or patrons, influence others of their brethren to become
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their protectors or even partizans, then indeed the popular press would become a despotism and public nuisance, a monster of prey against which mankind, in their own defence, must unite, and either subjugate or destroy. It would be a sort of ambush or den, from whence they could, "*ad libitum*" issue forth, and with impunity wound, cut, stab, or maim.

Such an association of newspaper editors in principles and practice, however, it might pamper the vanity and self-interest of the craft, would be subversive of general liberty. It would let loose calumny and venality to riot on the public; and a surrender or acquiescence on the part of the nation, to such censorial and inquisitorial powers in the persons of newspaper editors, would be a direktion of their rights, and of their senses. For as to the *only two remaining remedies and redress*, left to the injured, and even these placed beyond the reach of the indigent or illiterate; to wit, a laborious and expensive process in Westminster Hall, or justification in a detached publication, in
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multitudes of cases, neither would be sufficient effectually to efface the aspersions, to atone for the injury, or to repair the breach of undermined reputation.

What mischievous consequence would ensue, should the professors of law be guided by a similar principle of illiberality and selfishness? Should they say to the application of an injured client, Sir, it is a brother, you must excuse our interference? What endless scenes of chicanery and pillage would the public then have to struggle against, and to combat?

Finally, the author, and those chiefly interested in the Nootka Sound Commerce, having discharged a duty due to themselves and the nation, submit their case to the good sense and penetration of your Majesty and your Ministers, of the Parliament, and of the enlightened part of the community. At the same time, declaring their intention of treating all future personal calumny of newspapers, whether conveyed in the form of paragraphs or letters, by
 silent

silent contempt, or an appeal to the laws. They are thoroughly confident that an unprejudiced and unbiaſſed diſcuſſion of the public grounds of the preſent controverſy between Spain and this country, will redound, equally to their own, and to the national honour and intereſt.

I have the honour to ſubſcribe myſelf,

With the moſt profound reſpect,

Your Majeſty's

Moſt dutiful and

Devoted Subject,

London, June 1ſt, }
1790.

ARGONAUT.

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To

TO THE PUBLIC.

IT is in contemplation to prepare and digest a complete and concise history of the different European voyages, discoveries, and settlements, throughout the Pacific Ocean ; with particular references to the Fur trade, carried on from Nootka Sound, from the east side by the Hudson's Bay Company, to the southern Fishery, in the vicinity of Staten Island, and likewise to the Botany Bay settlement ; representing all their immediate, prospective, and collateral advantages, more especially to Great Britain.

This publication is meant to be comprised in one volume quarto, with elegant, original charts, and drawings ; and that the publication should be made worthy of ~~the~~ critical perusal, it is not intended to be completed in less than nine months.

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